



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
**LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY**

**JERRY E. ABRAMSON**  
MAYOR

Dear Fellow Citizens,

I am pleased to present my fourth budget plan for Louisville Metro Government – a Blueprint for Our Future.

Our revenue growth is expected to be modest in 2006-2007 – but our goals for government and our vision for the community are ambitious.

With this budget, we build squarely on the foundation we established over the past three years:

- Improving public safety, from police to EMS, from fire to our new MetroSafe emergency communications and operations system;
- Investing in roads, building maintenance and other infrastructure;
- Improving parks, with projects that range from new ball fields, playgrounds and restrooms to planning a River Road recreation corridor;
- Growing jobs and fostering economic development;
- Strengthening neighborhoods and families;
- Supporting education through our libraries and youth education and job-training programs;
- Building on the high quality of life we enjoy, from downtown attractions to bike paths, from our Louisville Zoo to arts-and-cultural institutions;
- And, finally, continuing to improve our efficiency, effectiveness, responsiveness and accountability as a government.

Let me highlight how we will move our community forward in several key areas in 2006-2007.

We will begin a long-range multi-million dollar initiative to modernize our Louisville Fire Department. The first phase will replace three of the city's oldest fire stations and upgrade more than half the fleet with new fire trucks. This budget sets aside \$1.2 million to buy land for the new stations in Clifton, Portland and the Beechmont area as well as \$1.8 million to accelerate fire-truck replacement.

We will invest \$750,000 this year to purchase land and design a new Louisville Metro animal shelter, with the goal of increasing adoptions and improving response.

And we will begin improvements and upgrades to Riverview Park, transforming this under-developed land in the far southwest into a recreation destination for area residents.

This year's budget represents the inaugural year of funding for a 5-year city Capital Improvement Plan. It is a best practice in municipal government to plan strategically – and one that will have a positive impact for generations of future Louisville residents.

The result of our efforts will be a city that we all can be proud to call home today – and a community that sets a bold course for its future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jerry E. Abramson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerry" being more prominent and the last name "Abramson" following in a similar style.

Jerry E. Abramson  
Mayor